

I am extremely pleased by the Senate's support of the ACFT/Platform Interface Lab, API Lab, at the Lakehurst Naval Air Warfare Center. The inclusion of \$15.71 million for this project will allow for the consolidation of 14 labs and 5 different 40-70 year old facilities to build the new modern API lab. The consolidation of these facilities in one location will result in greater productivity and efficiency, and an increased ability for Lakehurst to fulfill its mission of ensuring our military's aircraft can take off and land safely from all Navy ships.

I thank the committee for supporting several projects at two other critical bases in my State. First, the \$5.6 million provided for the Centralized Tactical Vehicle Wash Facility at Fort Dix will increase our ability to prepare military vehicles for missions overseas. Second, the funding for a Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Hangar, Visiting Quarters and additional units of housing at McGuire Air Force Base will improve the standard of living and increase productivity throughout the base.

Finally, while I am supportive of the projects included in this legislation, I look forward to working with the community to identify additional funding for another important project that was not included in the bill. This project, the National Guard Bureau Training and Training Technology Battle Lab, T3BL, at Fort Dix, will allow the Army National Guard to conduct cutting edge training through the application and use of critical training, aides, devices, simulators, and simulation. Currently, \$9.5 million is needed to begin the second phase construction of the lab.

Mr. President, I again thank the distinguished chairman, Ranking Member BYRD, Chairman BURNS, and Ranking Member MURRAY for their commitment and attention to these important issues.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, June 16, 1999, the federal debt stood at \$5,581,245,428,829.42 (Five trillion, five hundred eighty-one billion, two hundred forty-five million, four hundred twenty-eight thousand, eight hundred twenty-nine dollars and forty-two cents).

One year ago, June 16, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,489,044,000,000 (Five trillion, four hundred eighty-nine billion, forty-four million).

Five years ago, June 16, 1994, the federal debt stood at \$4,592,643,000,000 (Four trillion, five hundred ninety-two billion, six hundred forty-three million).

Ten years ago, June 16, 1989, the federal debt stood at \$2,783,200,000,000 (Two trillion, seven hundred eighty-three billion, two hundred million) which reflects a debt increase of almost \$3 trillion—\$2,798,045,428,829.42 (Two trillion,

seven hundred ninety-eight billion, forty-five million, four hundred twenty-eight thousand, eight hundred twenty-nine dollars and forty-two cents) during the past 10 years.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-3750. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3751. A communication from the Executive Director, Governmental Affairs, Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar years 1997 and 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3752. A communication from the Under Secretary, Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, transmitting, a report relative to the 1997-98 El Niño event; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3753. A communication from the Executive Director, National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-3754. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification of a proposed manufacturing license for Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3755. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification of a proposed manufacturing license for Portugal; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3756. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification of a proposed export license for Egypt; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-3757. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Office of Child Support Enforcement for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3758. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, Presidential Determination Number 99-28, relative to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3759. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the Department of the Treasury; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3760. A communication from the Executive Director, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Authority's report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3761. A communication from the Chairman, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period of October 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3762. A communication from the Administrator, Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period of October 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3763. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period of October 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3764. A communication from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period of October 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3765. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period of October 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999, and the management response; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3766. A communication from the Chief Operating Officer/President, Resolution Funding Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the statement on internal controls and the audited financial statement for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3767. A communication from the Executive Director, District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Financial Plan and Budget for the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-3768. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Design and Fabrication Code Case Acceptability—ASME Section III, Division 1" (Regulatory Guide 1.84, Revision 31), received June 16, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3769. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Materials Code Case Acceptability—ASME Section III, Division 1" (Regulatory Guide 1.85, Revision 31), received June 16, 1999; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3770. A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inserv-ice Inspection Code Case Acceptability—ASME Section XI, Division 1" (Regulatory Guide 1.147, Revision 12), received June 16,